

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

ULLRICH et al.

Serial Number: 09/461,090

Filed: December 14, 1999

For: EGF RECEPTOR TRANSACTIVATION BY G-PROTEIN-COUPLED  
RECEPTORS REQUIRES METALLOPROTEINASE CLEAVAGE OF  
proHB-EGF



Group Art Unit: 1655

Examiner: F. Lu

Atty Dkt No.: 100564-09051

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**AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 13, 2000

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action dated September 13, 2000, in connection with the above-identified patent application. Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments without prejudice.

***In the claims:***

Please cancel claim 2.

Please amend claims 1, 5, 17 and 19 as follows.

**Claim 1.** A method for modulating growth-factor activation comprising contacting a cell or an organism which contains a growth-factor receptor capable of being activated with a modulator of G-protein mediated signal transduction so as to activate the growth-factor receptor, wherein said activation of the growth-factor receptor is mediated by its extracellular domain.